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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/695,250	10/25/2000	Patrik Wiss	2380-250	2628

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EXAMINER

PHUNKULH, BOB A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2661

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/695,250

Applicant(s)

WISS ET AL.

Examiner

Bob A. Phunkulh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 October 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 39 and 40 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 13-23, 26-35, 37 and 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12, 24, 25 and 36 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 December 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4, 6.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1-10, 13-23, 26-35, 37-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Mahkonen (EP 1 006 742 A1).

Regarding claim 1, Mahkonen discloses a media stream system which processes plural media streams, each media stream comprising packets of media information, the system comprising:

plural processors, each of the plural processors executing at least one of plural types of media stream processing functions (a plurality of DSP platform, see figure 3);

a switch function which routes the packets of the plural media streams to a sequence of the plural processors whereby the plural types of media stream processing

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functions are sequentially performed relative to the packets (packet switch 18, see figure 3);

wherein a packet size for the packets is chosen to minimize overhead load on at least one of the plural processors without causing undue delay for a packet awaiting processing by the at least one of the plural processors (col. 5 lines 16-38).

Regarding claim 2, Mahkonen discloses the packet size for a packet of media information is chosen to be 160 octets (see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 3, Mahkonen discloses consecutive packets of a same media stream being separated by a packet repetition interval (frames, see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 4, Mahkonen discloses the packet repetition interval between consecutive packets of the same media stream is 20 milliseconds (see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 5, Mahkonen discloses wherein the number of plural media streams is nine (the Mahkonen's system having 1....n DSPs, where $n=9$, see col. 11 line 10).

Regarding claim 6, Mahkonen discloses the plural media streams are one of plural voice channels and plural video channels (speech, se col. 2 lines 41-57).

Regarding claim 7, Mahkonen discloses the switch asynchronously routes the packets of the plural media streams to a sequence of the plural processors (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 8, Mahkonen discloses at least one of the plural processors there is a queue for temporarily storing a packet received while the at least one of the plural processors performs its media stream processing function relative to another packet (FIFOs, see figure 5 and col. 11 lines 42-47).

Regarding claim 9, Mahkonen discloses at least one of the plural processors is a digital signal processor (DSP) (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 10, Mahkonen discloses the plural types of media stream processing functions include at least one of the following: speech coding; speech decoding; echo cancellation; tone sender; tone receiver; DTMF sender; DTMF receiver; conference call device (CCD); announcement machine; FAX modem; voice recognition; and U-lag/Alag conversion; an interfacing functionality to an external network (such as TDM, ATM, IP and Frame Relay networks); video codec, text processing, modem for either circuit switched or packet switched data (see col. 1 lines 14-21)

Regarding claim 13, Mahkonen discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the switch function comprises one of a packet switch and a cell switch (packet switch 18,

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where cell switch i.e. ATM is also known as packet based network, see figure 3 and col. 12 lines 14-34).

Regarding claim 14, Mahkonen discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the switch function comprises one of a packet-based and a cell-based network (packet switch 18, where cell switch i.e. ATM is also known as packet based network, see figure 3 and col. 12 lines 14-34).

Regarding claim 15, Mahkonen discloses a method of handling plural media streams, each media stream comprising packets of media information, the method comprising:

executing plural types of media stream processing functions at plural processors (the plurality of DSP processors, see figure 3);

routing the packets of the plural media streams to a sequence of the plural processors whereby the plural types of media stream processing functions are sequentially performed relative to the packets (the packet switch 18 routes the plural media stream to the DSP, see figure 3);

choosing a packet size for the packets to minimize overhead load on at least one of the plural processors without causing undue delay for a packet awaiting processing by the at least one of the plural processors (see col. 5 lines 16-38).

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Regarding claim 16, Mahkonen discloses the packet size for a packet of media information is chosen to be 160 octets (see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 17, Mahkonen discloses consecutive packets of a same media stream being separated by a packet repetition interval (frames, see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 18, Mahkonen discloses the packet repetition interval between consecutive packets of the same media stream is 20 milliseconds (see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 19, Mahkonen discloses wherein the number of plural media streams is nine (the Mahkonen's system having 1....n DSPs, where $n=9$, see col. 11 line 10).

Regarding claim 20, Mahkonen discloses the plural media streams are one of plural voice channels and plural video channels (speech, se col. 2 lines 41-57).

Regarding claim 21, Mahkonen discloses the switch asynchronously routes the packets of the plural media streams to a sequence of the plural processors (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 22, Mahkonen discloses at least one of the plural processors there is a queue for temporarily storing a packet received while the at least one of the plural processors performs its media stream processing function relative to another packet (FIFOs, see figure 5 and col. 11 lines 42-47).

Regarding claim 23, Mahkonen discloses the plural types of media stream processing functions include at least one of the following: speech coding; speech decoding; echo cancellation; tone sender; tone receiver; DTMF sender; DTMF receiver; conference call device (CCD); announcement machine; FAX modem; voice recognition; and U-lag/Alag conversion; an interfacing functionality to an external network (such as TDM, ATM, IP and Frame Relay networks); video codec, text processing, modem for either circuit switched or packet switched data (see col. 1 lines 14-21)

Regarding claim 26, Mahkonen discloses the switch function comprises one of a packet switch and a cell switch (packet switch 18, where cell switch i.e. ATM is also known as packet based network, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 27, Mahkonen discloses the switch function comprises one of a packet-based and a cell-based network (packet switch 18, where cell switch i.e. ATM is also known as packet based network, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 28, Mahkonen discloses a media stream system which processes plural media streams, each media stream comprising packets of media information, the system comprising:

plural processors, each of the plural processors executing at least one of plural types of media stream processing functions (the DSPs, see figure 3)

a switch function which asynchronously routes the packets of the plural media streams to a sequence of the plural processors whereby the plural types of media stream processing functions are sequentially performed relative to the packets (the packet switch 18, see figure 3);

wherein a packet size for the packets is chosen to be 160 octets (see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 29, Mahkonen discloses consecutive packets of a same media stream being separated by a packet repetition interval (frames, see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 30, Mahkonen discloses the packet repetition interval between consecutive packets of the same media stream is 20 milliseconds (see col. 3 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 31, Mahkonen discloses wherein the number of plural media streams is nine (the Mahkonen's system having 1....n DSPs, where n=9, see col. 11 line 10).

Regarding claim 32, Mahkonen discloses the plural media streams are one of plural voice channels and plural video channels (speech, see col. 2 lines 41-57).

Regarding claim 33, Mahkonen discloses at least one of the plural processors there is a queue for temporarily storing a packet received while the at least one of the plural processors performs its media stream processing function relative to another packet (FIFOs, see figure 5 and col. 11 lines 42-47).

Regarding claim 34, Mahkonen discloses at least one of the plural processors is a digital signal processor (DSP) (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 35, Mahkonen discloses the plural types of media stream processing functions include at least one of the following: speech coding; speech decoding; echo cancellation; tone sender; tone receiver; DTMF sender; DTMF receiver; conference call device (CCD); announcement machine; FAX modem; voice recognition; and U-lag/Alag conversion; an interfacing functionality to an external network (such as TDM, ATM, IP and Frame Relay networks); video codec, text processing, modem for either circuit switched or packet switched data (see col. 1 lines 14-21)

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Regarding claim 37, Mahkonen discloses the switch function comprises one of a packet switch and a cell switch (packet switch 18, where cell switch i.e. ATM is also known as packet based network, see figure 3).

Regarding claim 38, Mahkonen discloses the switch function comprises one of a packet-based and a cell-based network (packet switch 18, where cell switch i.e. ATM is also known as packet based network, see figure 3).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11-12, 24-25, and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 39-40 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bob A. Phunkulh** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-8251**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor **Douglas W. Olms**, can be reach on **(703) 305-4703**. The fax phone number for this group is **(703) 872-9314**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Bob A. Phunkulh



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May 13, 2004